

PYRAZOLE COMPOSITIONS USEFUL AS INHIBITORS OF ERK

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This application claims priority to co-pending International Patent Application PCT/US01/03910, filed February 5, 2001, which claims priority of United States
5 Provisional Application serial number 60/180,506 filed February 5, 2000; United States Provisional Application serial number 60/191,956 filed March 24, 2000; and United States Provisional Application serial number 60/255,309 filed December 13, 2000. The entirety of which is herein
10 incorporated by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is in the field of medicinal chemistry and relates to pyrazole compounds that are protein kinase inhibitors, especially inhibitors of ERK, compositions containing such compounds, and methods of
15 use. The compounds are useful for treating cancer and other disease states that are alleviated by protein kinase inhibitors.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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Mammalian mitogen-activated protein (MAP)1 kinases are serine/threonine kinases that mediate intracellular signal transduction pathways (Cobb and Goldsmith, 1995, *J Biol. Chem.*, 270, 14843; Davis, 1995,
25 *Mol. Reprod. Dev.* 42, 459). Members of the MAP kinase family share sequence similarity and conserved structural